

Panel to Study Reds' Military Cutback Plans

President Names 8 Men to Head Special Survey

President Eisenhower has assigned heads of eight task forces to a special panel to study the implications of Russia's announced military cutback. Harold Stassen, the President's special assistant on disarmament, announced today.

Mr. Stassen told a news conference the group of military, nuclear and economic experts will be called into session here May 29 and will also review Mr. Stassen's seven weeks of disarmament negotiations with Russia and other countries in London recently.

Presumably the group would also plan any move the United States might make in response to the Russian announcement that, by next May 1, the Soviet military forces will be reduced by 1.2 million men.

Eight to Have Aides

The eight panel members, who will have aides working with them, and the special subjects of each are:

Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, nuclear; Gen. James H. Doolittle, air; Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Army; Admiral Oswald B. Colclough, Navy; Benjamin Fairless, steel; Walker L. Cisler, power and industry; Dr. Harold Moulton, military budgets, and Dr. James B. Fisk, communications.

The task forces were set up by the President beginning last July.

Mr. Stassen said the Soviet announcement "indicates a willingness on their part to continue serious negotiation in an endeavor to meet comprehensive agreements on control of armament."

He confirmed published reports that he first heard about the planned arms cut announcement at a dinner party meeting in London April 14 with Soviet leaders Khrushchev and Bulganin. He said the move then apparently was only in the thinking stage.

Decision Made Later

"It would appear the actual decision . . . was made after the London talks," he said. It could be said, therefore, he added, that the disarmament talks in London contributed to the Russian decision.